

" By the senate, November 26, 1791: Read the second time and will pass.

" By order,

H. RIDGELY, clk."

Which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Love, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report:

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Thomas Moore, beg leave to report, that they find the allegations therein contained to be true, and are of opinion that the auditor-general should be authorized to pass upon the claim of the petitioner against the Nottingham Company, and that the treasurer issue a certificate for such sum as the auditor may allow. All which is submitted to the honourable house.

By order,

J. O'BRYON, 3d. clk.

Which was read.

The report on the petition of William A. Needham, was read the second time, concurred with, and the resolution therein assented to, and sent to the senate by the clerk.

Mr. Clagett, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report:

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Clement Skerrett and Philip Rogers, of Baltimore county, report, that they have examined the same, and find that they state that a certain George Legett purchased of the state a lot of land, No. 1, which said lot was sold for, and said to contain, two hundred acres of land; and that he the said Legett has not the quantity of land sold him by the number of eighteen acres; and that the petitioners further state, as the said lot lies on the water, the number of thirty acres are, at times, covered by tide-water.

Your committee are of opinion, that the court of chancery has power to relieve against any deficiency of land contracted for by the said Legett with the state, and if there was any fraud or mistake in the sale to the said Legett, that his redress is in a court of equity.

By order,

J. O'BRYON, 3d. clk.

Which was read the first and second time, and concurred with.

The amendment to the bill to revive and aid the proceedings of Harford county court, and for other purposes, was read the second time and dissented to.

On motion, Leave given to bring in a bill to prevent candidates for the sheriff's office from treating at and previous to elections, and for other purposes. ORDERED, That Mr. Oneale, Mr. Wright, Mr. Pinkney, Mr. Mercer and Mr. Duvall; be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

The bill to direct the mode of taking sheriffs bonds, and to provide for defects which have arisen therein since the revolution, was read the second time, and the question put, That the said bill do pass? Determined in the negative, and sent to the senate by the clerk.

The report on the petition of the executors of the late general Hooper, was read the second time and concurred with; and thereupon, RESOLVED, That the said executors, and all other the representatives of the said general Hooper, be and they are hereby for ever released and discharged from any claim of the state arising on advances of public money to the said general Hooper in the years 1776 and 1777, as stated in account on the books of the auditor's-office, it appearing to this general assembly that the said advances have been fairly and fully expended.

The following message, being prepared, was agreed to, and sent to the senate, with the bill to revive and aid the proceedings of Harford county court, and for other purposes, by the clerk.

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, NOVEMBER 28, 1791.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS,

WE have rejected the amendment proposed by the senate to the bill to revive and aid the proceedings of Harford county court, and for other purposes. We have entire confidence that the justices of that court will require sufficient security from the sheriff, and it does not appear to us, from the expressions of the 42d article of the constitution, that since the new government the judgment of the county court, upon this subject, is liable to any control.

The practice in this state has been, without exception, different from your amendment, and we see no reason for impeaching the legality of that practice by a declaration of the legislature. It may create doubts of the validity of every sheriff's bonds heretofore taken, without producing any valuable effect in the particular case before us.

The amendment may become extremely inconvenient in another respect; for, if the governor, whose means of information cannot be equal to those of the court, should think proper to reject the bond to be taken by them at their special meeting, the object of the bill will be defeated, and the sheriff rendered incapable of acting until the next March term. The bill, as passed by the house of delegates, places this bond on the same footing with all others taken by the county court, and this we conceive is doing all that can be necessary. We therefore hope the senate will recede from their amendment.

By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

The report on the memorial of James M'Henry, was read the second time and dissented to.

A letter from Luke Wheeler, counter to the petition of Elizabeth Dorsey, was preferred, read, and referred to the committee on the petition of Mrs. Dorsey.

The clerk of the senate delivers a bill, entitled, An act concerning the territory of Columbia, and city of Washington, endorsed; " By the senate, November 25, 1791: Read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

" By order,

H. RIDGELY, clk.

" By